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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Operational activities for development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 9th, 17th, 31st and 34th meetings, on 14 and 31 October and on 1 and 13 December 1994. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.9, 17, 31 and 34). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 7 and from 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/49/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children (A/49/326);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Field representation of United Nations system organizations: a more unitary approach" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/49/133-E/1994/49 and Add.1);

(c) Letter dated 3 February 1994 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a joint statement on the establishment of the Japan-Singapore Partnership Programme (A/49/71);

(d) Letter dated 6 April 1994 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the joint communiqué issued at the Fourth Meeting of the Summit-level Group for South-South Consultations (Group of Fifteen), held at New Delhi from 28 to 30 March 1994 (A/49/119);

(e) Letter dated 27 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the ministerial statement on an agenda for development, adopted by the Group of 77 of 24 June 1994 (A/49/204-E/1994/90);

(f) Letter dated 27 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the ministerial declaration adopted on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Group of 77 (A/49/205-E/1994/91);

(g) Letter dated 12 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a message from the President of Tunisia and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity to the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Seven (A/49/256);

(h) Letter dated 5 September 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the twenty-fifth South Pacific Forum, held at Brisbane, Australia, from 31 July to 2 August 1994 (A/49/381);

(i) Letter dated 3 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the ministerial declaration of the Group of 77, adopted on 30 September 1994 (A/49/462 and Corr.1);

(j) Letter dated 30 September 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia to the Secretary-General transmitting the declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization of African Unity in New York on 29 September 1994 (A/49/479);

(k) Letter dated 23 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final report of the twentieth regular meeting of the Latin American Council, held at Mexico City from 30 May to 3 June 1994 (A/49/486);

(l) Letter dated 17 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 October 1994 (A/49/532-S/1994/1179).

4. At the 9th meeting, on 14 October, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/49/SR.9).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.4 and L.51

5. At the 17th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Development Programme" (A/C.2/49/L.4), which read:

> "The General Assembly,
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> "Reaffirming its resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development within the United Nations system and 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related field, and recalling decision 94/15 of 10 June 1994 on the 1994 Human Development Report, adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, 1/
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> "Recalling that the Human Development Report and the concepts contained therein, such as human security and sustainable human development, are the result of an independent intellectual exercise that should not lead to the introduction of conditionalities into the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,
>
> "1. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure, through the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, that the Human Development Report is independent and distinct from United Nations Development Programme operations;
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> "2. Asserts the need to improve the process of consultation with Member States and other relevant international bodies to refine the methodologies, including the collection and sources of data, used in the Human Development Report, with a view to improving its quality and accuracy, without jeopardizing its intellectual independence;
>
> "3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 31st meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Arjan P. Hamburger (Netherlands), introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Development Programme and the Human Development Report" (A/C.2/49/L.51), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.4.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.51 without a vote (see para. 10).

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15 (E/1994/35/Rev.1).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.51, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.4 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

Documents relating to operational activities for development

9. At its 34th meeting, on 13 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the reports under the item on which no draft proposals had been submitted (see para. 11).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

United Nations Development Programme and the Human Development Report

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development within the United Nations system and 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling that the Human Development Report is the result of an independent intellectual exercise and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States,

1. Affirms that the Human Development Report is a separate and distinct exercise which is not an official document of the United Nations and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States;

2. Reaffirms decision 94/15 of 10 June 1994 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, 2/ by which the Board welcomed the decision of the Administrator to improve the process of consultation with Member States and other relevant international bodies to refine the methodologies used in the report with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the present resolution is reported to it within the context of the relevant

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2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15 (E/1994/35/Rev.1).

section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on its substantive session of 1995.

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11. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to operational activities for development

The General Assembly decides to take note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children; 3/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Field representation of United Nations system organizations: a more unitary approach" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon. 4/

3/ A/49/326.

4/ A/49/133-E/1994/49 and Add.1.